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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Intelligence School

FROM : OTR Orientation and Briefing Officer

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report #36  
3 September to 9 September 1958

DATE: 10 September 1958

NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE BRIEFING

1. On 5 September a two-hour briefing was put on at R&S Auditorium for the 150 staff, faculty, and student members of the National War College. General Cabell spoke for 20 minutes on CIA and was followed by Mr. Amory and Mr. Karamessines, who spoke on their respective areas. After a coffee break, a 15-minute question-and-answer period was conducted in which all the speakers participated.

2. The highlight of the formal presentations was Mr. Amory's brilliant speech. General Cabell was at his best; Mr. Karamessines, though good, was not. During the all-too-short question period, General Cabell answered most of the questions. He was relaxed, confident, and extremely effective in the give-and-take of the question-and-answer session.

3. The briefing was impaired by the extremely uncomfortable heat-humidity combination. During the break, more than half the people were heard to complain of the discomfort. After the briefing, General Cabell remarked on the inadequacy of the CIA chart on the stage. The IO chart was used. The O & B Officer had directed that recent changes be reflected (for example, USIB) but had not personally reviewed the chart. This was a mistake. Other administrative arrangements--coffee, busses, security--went smoothly.

4. It is regrettable that the Commandant did not accept the offer of General Cabell and Mr. Amory to extend the question period or that the College requested a briefing of only two hours' duration this year instead of last year's three hours.

CIA REVIEW

On 8 September this program was conducted for ☐ overseas returnees.

Document No. 196 50NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

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See remarks attached.

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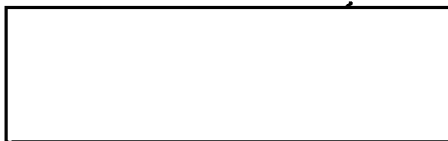
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CIA INTRODUCTION

On 8 September this program was conducted for 103 persons, the vast majority being clerical. No program had been held the previous week because of the Labor Day holiday.

MID-CAREER BRIEFINGS

The two days (9 and 10 September) of CIA briefings for the current Mid-Career Course on Foreign Affairs are in progress.



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11 September 1958

Re Paul's paragraphs 3 and 4:

His perfectionism is in full swing here, and causes the report to give a less favorable impression than the facts warrant. Actually, the chart was quite adequate, reflecting the new USIB organization and other changes. One line showing the DD/P chain of command to the field was omitted, but this omission was not consequential; the point was covered in the briefings. General Cabell wanted the Area Divisions to be indicated in detail, whereas the chart was made up according to the DD/P specifications and showed only one large block labeled "Area Divisions." This difference of opinion is one which could hardly have been anticipated without a full dry run in which General Cabell could have overruled the decision of the DD/P concerning the degree of information to be given.

The views of General Cabell altered the program in two other unanticipated respects. The morning of the program, he directed that three briefings be presented in sequence, followed by a coffee break and ending with a question period. This was different from the plan originally laid on by [ ] two 25 briefings, a coffee break, a third briefing, and the question period. The latter, original plan is much better suited to a place like the auditorium which was fairly warm although not unusually so by our standards. General Cabell simply did not realize the effect of an hour and twenty minutes' continuous sitting for himself and the officer group, accustomed to air-conditioned space. Also, General Cabell stepped up on three occasions to amplify generalizations that Karamessines was making in answer to questions: "Now let me give you a specific example", and proceeded to present material which Karamessines was evidently reluctant to divulge to this group.

In spite of these subtle problems, the briefing as a whole went satisfactorily. The arrangements for such space as we have were properly laid on, the program got under way promptly and smoothly when the group arrived, the physical arrangements for identifying the officers as they entered and left for coffee break, and for transportation and parking were all quite smooth. In short, the College requested a two-hour briefing and were given exactly what they had asked for.

A handwritten signature, possibly initials, in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' or 'B' with a horizontal stroke.